

Message Text

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PASS HUD OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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TAGS: ECE, SOCI, UR, IS

SUBJ: ECE - HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE: ISRAELI
PARTICIPATION IN STUDY TOUR IN USSR

REF: A. STATE 22548, B. MOSCOW 14181, C. MOSCOW 14183

1. SUMMARY: IN CONSIDERATION OF USSR STUDY TOUR BY ECE/HBP COMMITTEE AFTERNOON SEPT. 9, USSR MAINTAINED POSITION BARRING PARTICIPATION BY NON-MEMBERS OF ECE. US, EC-9, CANADA AND NORWAY THEREFORE ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL. USSR STATED STUDY TOUR WOULD TAKE PLACE AND REGRETTED LACK OF FULL PARTICIPATION. QUESTIONED WHETHER STUDY TOUR WOULD BE OFFICIAL ECE FUNCTION, ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK SAID OFFICIAL ECE FUNCTIONS MUST CONFORM TO ECE RULES. SECRETARIAT PARTICIPATION IN STUDY TOUR THEREFORE NOT EXPECTED. END SUMMARY.

2. ECE/HBP COMMITTEE CONSIDERED QUESTION OF STUDY TOUR IN USSR AFTERNOON SEPT 9. MEETING OPENED WITH INTRODUCTION BY SECRETARIAT OF CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER
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(QUOTED GENEVA 7006) STATING THAT USSR HAD CERTAIN

DIFFICULTIES WITH PARTICIPATION IN STUDY TOUR OF EXPERTS FROM NON-ECE COUNTRIES. USSR, AFTER DESCRIPTION OF STUDY TOUR, ASKED UNDERSTANDING THAT PARTICIPATION HAD TO BE LIMITED TO ECE MEMBERS BECAUSE OF SHORTAGE OF HOTEL SPACE IN SOME OF CITIES TO BE VISITED.

3. UPON QUESTION FROM NETHERLANDS DEL RE SECRETARIAT POSITION ON EXCLUSION OF NON-MEMBERS, ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK CITED UN LEGAL POSITION THAT STUDY TOURS TAKING PLACE UNDER AUSPICES OF ECE ARE OFFICIAL ECE FUNCTIONS AND MUST BE ORGANIZED UNDER ECE CONDITIONS. UNDER ARTICLE 11 OF ECE TERMS OF REFERENCE NON-MEMBERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN SUCH STUDY TOURS AND HOST COUNTRY IS REQUIRED TO GRANT VISAS. STUDY TOUR IN QUESTION WAS OFFERED BY USSR AND ACCEPTED BY ECE AS OFFICIAL FUNCTION AND INCLUDED IN WORK PROGRAM. THEREFORE ARTICLE 11 APPLIED.

4. NETHERLANDS (SPEAKING FOR EC-9), US, CANADA, AND NORWAY STATED THAT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDY TOUR. GREECE, WHILE NEVER INTENDING TO PARTICIPATE, SUPPORTED APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 11.

5. CHAIRMAN (SAPUNOV, UKRANIAN SSR) THEREUPON SUGGESTED THAT COMMITTEE MIGHT TAKE NOTE OF USSR STATEMENT AND DECIDE THAT "IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES THE STUDY TOUR AFTER THIS SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AN OFFICIAL FUNCTION OF THE COMMITTEE". CHAIRMAN HOPED THIS "COMPROMISE" WOULD ALLOW GOVERNMENTS WITH PROBLEMS RE ARTICLE 11 TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDY TOUR.

6. UPON SUGGESTION OF CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ADJOURNED FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS. CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSAL REJECTED BY EC-9, US, AND CANADA AS WELL AS PORTUGAL WHICH SAID IT NOT PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITY OUTSIDE OF ECE. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS POINTED TO PROBLEM OF ECE DELEGATES DECIDING ON HOLDING OF AND PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITY OUTSIDE OF ECE.

7. IN RESUMED COMMITTEE SESSION, AUSTRIA SUPPORTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPLICABILITY OF ARTICLE 11 WHILE SEEDEN AND FINLAND REGRETTED NON-MEMBERS WOULD BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE. (AUSTRIA HAD NOT PLANNED TO PARTICIPATE; SWEDEN AND FINLAND MADE NO STATEMENT RE PARTICIPATION AND ARE NOT EXPECTED TO WITHDRAW). SWITZERLAND REGRETTED THAT OFFICIAL STUDY TOUR NOT POSSIBLE AND ISRAEL STATED THAT RECORD SHOULD SHOW THAT ECE STUDY TOUR NOT TAKING PLACE AND ECE SECRETARIAT NOT PROVIDING SUPPORT. USSR AND OTHER

EASTERN COUNTRIES SAID STUDY TOUR WOULD TAKE PLACE AND
REGRETTED LACK OF FULL PARTICIPATION.

8. QUESTIONED BY UK AS TO WHETHER THERE WAS IN FACT
AND ECE STUDY TOUR BEGINNING SATURDAY, STANOVNIK RESPONDED
THAT ECE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE CONDUCTED UNDER
ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENT-APPROVED RULES. ARTICLE 11 PUT
DOWN CLEAR RULES AND NOBODY HAD CONTESTED THAT ARTICLE
11 WAS NOT TO BE OBSERVED. THIS ANSWERED QUESTION BY
ITSELF. SOVIETS RETORTED THAT NOBODY HAD SAID STUDY
TOUR SUBJECT TO DOUBT AND STUDY TOUR WOULD TAKE PLACE.
CHAIRMAN BANGED GAVEL AND DISCUSSION ENDED ON THIS
NOTE.

9. COMMENT: WHETHER OR NOT LIMITED-PARTICIPATION STUDY
TOUR BEGINNING SATURDAY IS OFFICIAL ECE ACTIVITY REMAINS TO
BE CLARIFIED IN CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORT
TOMORROW. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S POSITION SEEMS CLEAR,
HOWEVER (AND WILL BE SUPPORTED BY WEST) AND US DEL
ANTICIPATES THAT STANOVNIK WILL WITHDRAW SECRETARIAT
PARTICIPATION. CATTO

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